

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No......10/816,789
Filing Date.....Mar 31, 2004
First Named Inventor.....Thamer A. Abanami
Assignee.....Microsoft Corporation
Group Art Unit.....2166
Examiner.....Sangwoo Ahn
Attorney's Docket No......MS1-1935US
Title.....User-Configurable Device Storage Synchronization Manager

RESPONSE TO INTERVIEW SUMMARY DATED 1/24/2007

To: Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

From: Kasey C. Christie (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)
Customer No. 22801

Interview Summary

[0001] In the Examiner-supplied interview summary dated 1/24/2007, the Examiner stated the following one the "continuation sheet":

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant's representative agreed that the cited art reads on claim 1 as Examiner applied in the Office Action. We discussed how effective a proposed amendment might be to overcome the prior art, particularly features such as "multiple groups of items". Applicant's representative discussed the differences in the cited art and claim 12, especially "a first display area" and "a second display area" but Examiner did not agree with that. Applicant's representative said he will further amendments to differentiate the claims from the prior art. Further examination and consideration will be done by Examiner following the filing of amendment.

[0002] For the record, Applicant disagrees with the characterizations made in the Examiner-supplied interview summary.

[0003] In particular, Applicant disagrees with these statements by the examiner on the continuation sheet: "Applicant's representative agreed that the cited art reads on claim 1 as Examiner applied in the Office Action" and "Applicant's representation said he will further amendment[] to differentiate the claims from the prior art."

[0004] While Applicant's representative—the undersigned attorney—may have expressed a willingness to amend claims to expedite prosecution, Applicant notes that such willingness should not be viewed as an admission the any cited art reads on any claim.

[0005] Furthermore, Applicant representative expressly disagrees that he ever officially or unofficially referred to the cited art as "prior art." Applicant never expressly, implicitly, officially, or unofficially admits that any cited art is indeed "prior art."

[0006] Further still, Applicant disagrees that its representative stated that he would "further amend[] to differentiate the claims from the prior art." Rather, its representative stated that he would look over the claims to see if it would be desirable to clarify the claim language so that it better captures the novel and non-obvious invention described in the application.

Request

[0007] Applicant asks the Examiner to replace the text of the Examiner-supplied interview summary dated 1/24/2007 with the following text:

"Examiner and Applicant representative discussed the differences between the claims and the cited art. The discussion included how effective an amendment directed towards a feature for "multiple groups of items" might be in overcoming the outstanding rejections, especially in the context of claim 1. Subject to a subsequent amend, Examiner viewed such an amendment favorably in light of the cited art."

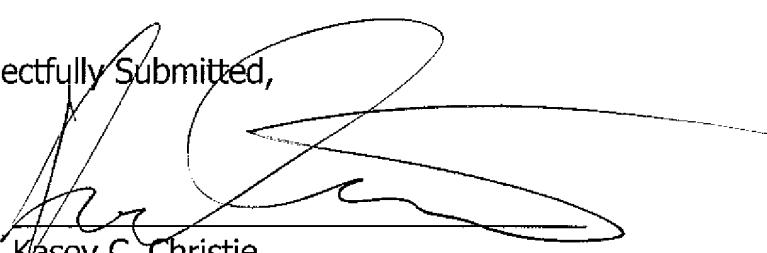
Conclusion

[0008] All pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, **Examiner Ahn is urged to contact me before issuing a subsequent Action.** Please call/email me or my assistant at your convenience.

Dated: 3-28-07

Respectfully Submitted,

By:


Kasey C. Christie
Reg. No. 40559
(509) 324-9256 x232
kasey@leehayes.com
www.leehayes.com

My Assistant: Carly Taylor
(509) 324-9256 x264
carly@leehayes.com